



# MISSISSIPPI STATE BOARD OF EXAMINERS

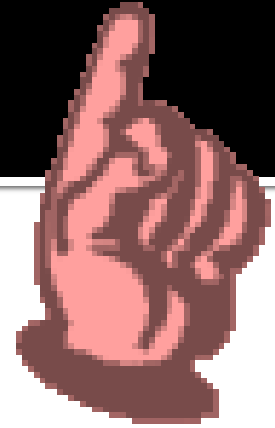
FOR SOCIAL WORKERS AND  
MARRIAGE & FAMILY THERAPISTS



## Board of Examiners Update: News You Can Use!

National Association of Social Workers, MS Chapter  
Annual Meeting, March 22-23, 2012

# Today's Presentation



- Familiarize you with the tasks of the BOE and understand who we are
- Help you become better acquainted with the BOE Rules and Regulations and recent changes
- Reiterate the different levels of licensure and responsibilities of each level
- Discuss why we have a need for a regulatory board
- Learn about the complaint process

# Who is the BOE?

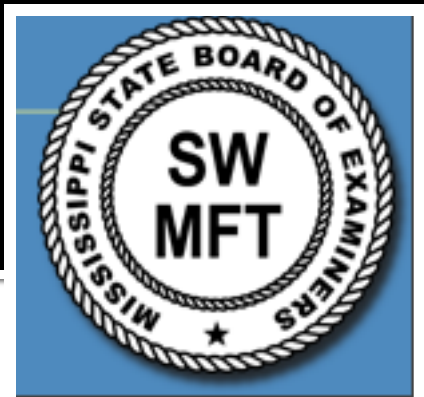
- Appointed by the Governor or Lieutenant Governor
- 6 Social Workers (2 LSW, 2 LMSW or LCSW, 2 LCSW)
- 4 Marriage and Family Therapists (LMFT)
- 4 year terms
- Volunteer positions
- Tasked with licensure, investigation, public protection

# Rules & Regulations



- Adopted April 2009
- Available online at [www.swmft.ms.gov](http://www.swmft.ms.gov)
- Can purchase copy (see website)
- Your license, your rules
- Read & understand
- Ask ? If you do not understand

# What Changes Have Been Made?



- Since last year...
- LCSW Supervision Changes
- CE Changes
- Process of filing rules and regulations
- Upcoming changes?

# Major Changes: What do they mean to me?



- LCSW Supervisory Changes
  - Amend, update, clarify, and add to provisions
  - Supervisors are required to have 16 hours worth of training
  - Supervisors must have 2 hours of board approved supervision CEs every renewal period thereafter
  - Supervisors who did not receive training hours by June 30, 2011 are no longer approved supervisors and must reapply

# What is supervision?

- Supervision means the direct review, for the purpose of training or teaching by a supervisor, of the supervisee's interaction with a client or client system.
- The purpose of supervision shall be to promote the development of the supervisee's social work skills.
- Rules and Regulations, pg. 37



# What is NOT supervision?

- Personal therapy and counsel
- Completed by a peer
- Completed by someone who's personal relationship prevents the establishment of a professional supervisory relationship





# Scope of Practice – Are you practicing appropriately?



- LSW – the generalist
- LMSW – the advance generalist
- LCSW – the specialist
  - Clinical
  - Macro

# Activity: What does this job description require?

## Social Worker or Not?

### ■ Associate Coordinator

- To work collaboratively with other agencies to educate clients as necessary for service needs
- To assist and schedule clients for orientation
- To document clients educated on employment options
- To objectively determine eligibility for the program
- To assist with scheduling and maintaining program client appointments
- To maintain client confidentiality
- To work with clients on pre-applications

### ■ KSA's

- Knowledge of general social work practice
- Ability to complete paperwork in a timely manner
- Experience in a human services setting which includes working with low- income families and individuals
- Good interpersonal and communication skills
- Computer proficiency
- Knowledge of community resources
- Ability and skills to make effective decisions
- Preferred degree in social services related field

# Activity: What does this job description require?

## Social Worker or Not?

### ■ Case Manager

- Conducts case management for appropriate clients
- Serves as a mediator for clients in securing eligible and able resources
- Serves as a community liaison knowing and information clients served of changes and effects
- Monitors and documents client progress
- Maintains confidentiality of all information and records of clients.
- Makes home visits as directed
- Sets up and conducts group education

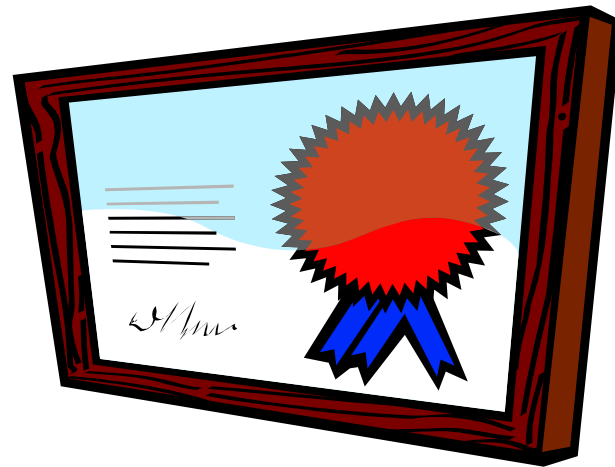
### ■ KSA's

- Ability to complete paperwork in a timely manner
- Knowledgeable of social worker responsibilities and available resources
- Ability to assist clients with case plans and goal setting
- Good interpersonal and communication skills
- Computer proficiency
- Ability and skills to make effective decisions
- Preferred bachelor of arts in social work

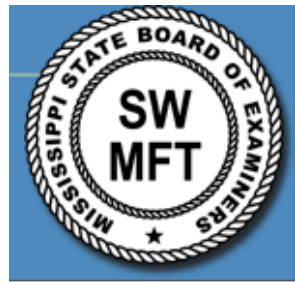
# Status of Licenses



- Active or Good Standing
- Probationary
- Inactive
- Denied
- Revoked
- Lapsed
- Suspended
- Retired
- Emergency

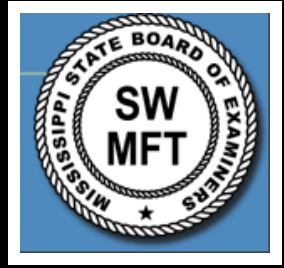


# Moral Character

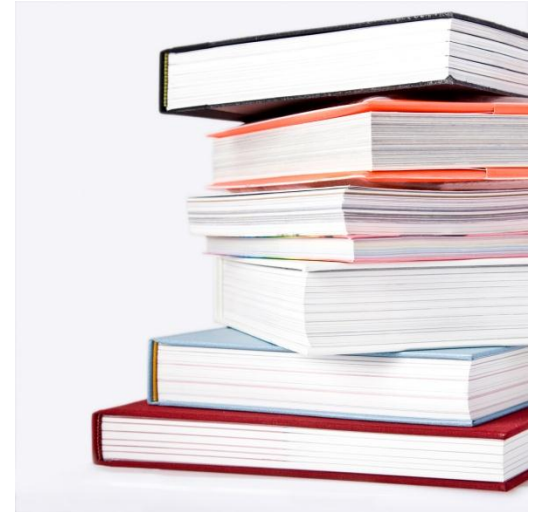


- Standard for Determining Good Moral Character
  - Definition
  - Duty to Investigate
  - Criminal History Record Check

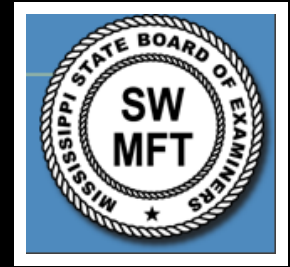
# Continuing Education



- Ethics & cultural competency training
- Academic Courses
- Self-directed / Online CEs
- Approval for CE offerings
- Designated provider changes

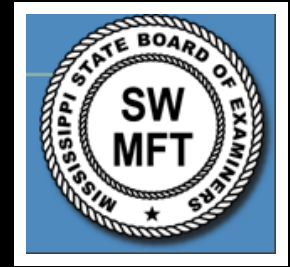


# Continuing Education



- MBOESWMFT Social Work Discipline-Specific Committee resumed administration of continuing education 1/1/12.
- Forty (40) clock hours are still required each renewal period. Four (4) hours of Ethics and two (2) hours of Cultural Diversity/Competency are required each renewal period. Social worker's responsibility to keep up with certificates.
- NASW, ASWB, CSWE, IASW, IFSSW, AAMFT courses are approved sources for continuing education.

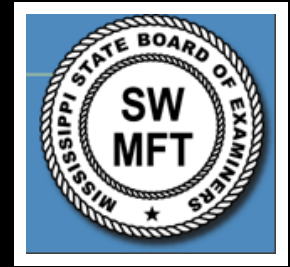
# Continuing Education



- Organizations or individuals previously approved by NASW for individual programs or as Designated Providers will maintain their approved status until renewal.
- NASW, MS Chapter and related Program Units will continue to provide oversight/approval for program unit meetings and other NASW-Sponsored CE events.



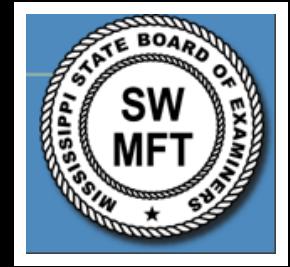
# Continuing Education



- Individuals/organizations wishing to apply to present will now go to [www.swmft.ms.gov](http://www.swmft.ms.gov) and look for "Social Work Continuing Education Applications". They will then submit by scan/email to [mboe@swmft.ms.gov](mailto:mboe@swmft.ms.gov) or by postal service to (with appropriate fees):

**Mississippi BOE for Social Workers & Marriage  
and Family Therapists  
Social Work Discipline Specific Committee - CE  
P.O. Box 4508  
Jackson, MS 39296-4508**

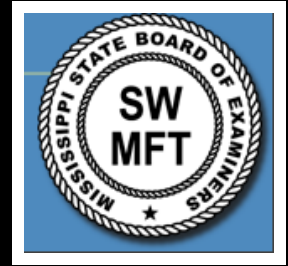
# Continuing Education



## HOW CE PRESENTATIONS ARE APPROVED:

- Completed Application received at least 1 month prior to proposed event (complete means with money order)
- CE Coordinator reviews contents and sends to CE sub-committee members comprised of members of the board and approved reviewers selected from the community (licensed - in good standing, different levels of licensure, from a wide variety of practice settings in the field of social work).
- Once reviewed, CE sub-committee members send review forms to CE Coordinator who is the liaison with the individual/entity seeking approval.

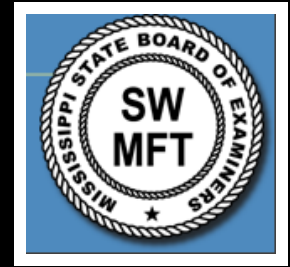
# Continuing Education



What Standards Do I Use to Know if My Program is Approved?

- NASW Continuing Education Standards
  - <http://socialworkers.org/ce/approval/CEGuidelines2010.pdf>
- ASWB Continuing Education Standards
  - <http://www.aswb.org/Links/ACEprogram.asp>

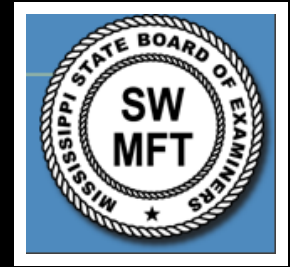
# Continuing Education



## ■ FEES

Designated Provider initial application.....	\$500.00
Designated Provider status renewal (every 2 years).....	\$250.00
Individual application (Less than or equal to 8 CE hours)....	\$50.00
Individual application (Greater than 8 CE Hours).....	\$100.00
Review of online CE program.....	\$50.00

# Continuing Education



- Upcoming...
  - July 2012 it is anticipated that there will be additional modification of current Rules and Regulations that will further assist practitioners of social work to practice ethically, effectively, and professionally.
  - If you have questions about CE, you may send correspondence to [mboe@swmft.ms.gov](mailto:mboe@swmft.ms.gov). It will come to members of the board who can address general and specific queries.

# Legal Issues in Social Work: Licensure Prerequisite – Miss. Code Ann. §73-53-7



A person, corporation, association or business entity shall not use, cause to be used or advertise in connection with that person's or party's name or the name or activity of the business the words, "social worker," "licensed social worker," "licensed master's social worker," "licensed certified social worker," "licensed clinical social worker," the letters "SW," "LSW," "LMSW," "LCSW" and/or any words, combination of words, abbreviations, or insignia indicating or implying directly or indirectly that social work services is provided or supplied unless those services are provided by a person holding a valid and current license issued under this chapter or under the supervision (as provided by board rule) of a licensed certified social worker with a valid and current license issued under this chapter.

# *Legal Issues: Regulation and Control*

- Board Powers

- Authorized to:

- Interpret the laws and regulations governing social workers.
- Regulate the practice of social work.
- Examine and determine the qualifications and fitness of applicants for licenses to practice social work.
- Refer matters before the Board to the appropriate law enforcement officials.
- Promulgate such rules or regulations as the Board finds necessary to carry out the social work licensure requirements.
- Investigate alleged or suspected violations of the social work licensure laws, rules and regulations.
- Exercise such other powers as may be required to carry out the provisions of the licensing law.

# Prohibited Acts



- Negligence
- Dishonorable, unethical or unprofessional conduct
- Fraud or deception
- Felony conviction
- Unacceptable Services
- Unfitness to Practice
- Discipline by another jurisdiction
- False or misleading advertising
- Violating Board rules and regulation
- Continued practice on a lapsed license
- Assuming responsibility for another's work other than as authorized by Board rule
- Lewd Conduct
- Revealing confidential information
- Violation of NASW Code of Ethics
- Contracting, assisting or permitting unlicensed persons to perform services for which a social work license is required



# *PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT*

- How Monitored?
  - Client
  - Board Member
  - Peer
  - Board Member
  - Social Service Agency
  - Other (Anonymous)
- Board employees and representatives may perform inspections of any workplace or practice of a social worker.



# *Legal Issues: Penalties*

## ■ Criminal Sanctions

- Misdemeanor conviction
  - Fine from \$500.00 to \$5,000.00

## ■ Administrative Sanctions

- Revocation
- Suspension
- Censure
- Reprimand
- Monetary Penalty
- Probation with conditions/restriction
- Refuse to issue or renew a license
- Revoke Probation
- Cease and Desist
- Summary Suspension

# Title and Scope of Practice

- I am a Social Worker.
- LCSW advertised that he had a Ph.D. and used the designation "Dr."
- Aiding and Abetting.
- Social worker with master's degree engaged in practice of psychotherapy and began receiving clients directly or by referral.



# *Legal Issues: Actions & Consequences*

- PRACTICING W/O A LICENSE PRIOR TO BEING LICENSED
- FAILING TO RENEW LICENSE BUT CONTINUING TO PRACTICE
- WORKING IN A POSITION THAT REQUIRES SOCIAL WORK LICENSE
- SURRENDERED LICENSE
- How Long Is Long Enough?
- Sharing Client Information with Other Professionals
- Facebook Failing Grade

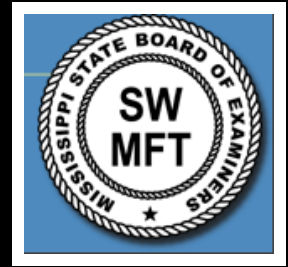


# *Legal Issues: Actions & Consequences*

- Mother Impregnated by Caseworker
- Employment Behavior
- Working with Minors
- Right to Recover for Services Performed



# *Legal Issues: More Consequences*



- Other Boards
- Injunctive Action
- Criminal Conviction
- NPDB/HIPDB
- Payment or compensation for services State professional licensing boards authorized to file action in court to enjoin and prohibit any person from the unlicensed practice of a profession.
- Public Disclosure
- Report final disciplinary action to other state or federal regulatory agencies
- Report final disciplinary action to a national disciplinary database.
- Publicity





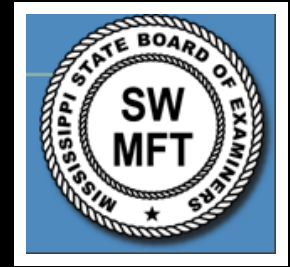
# Future Trends????

## Licensed Social Work Associate

### Example of Qualifications for Licensure:

- An associate degree, or at least sixty (60) credit hours of college education, in the field of social work, psychology, counseling or other similar human services field, from an accredited college or university or
- A baccalaureate degree in social work, psychology, counseling, or other similar human services field, from an accredited college or university

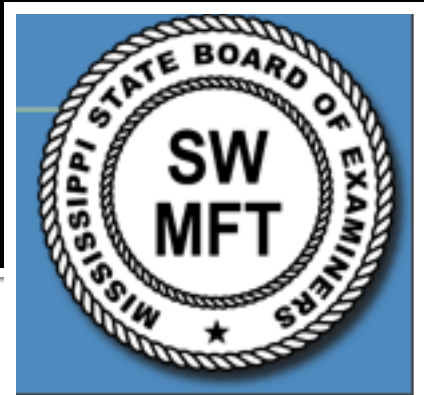
# FUTURE TRENDS???



- A minimum of one thousand (1000) hours of experience in social work theory and methods as determined by the Board.
- A minimum of three (3) favorable professional references, on forms furnished by the Board from person familiar with the applicant's professional experience in the field of social work, attesting that the applicant is of good moral character and has demonstrated that he or she will conduct his or her activities as a LSWA in accordance with generally accepted standards of professional social work practice. At least one reference should be from a Licensed Certified Social Workers or Licensed Master Social Worker.



# Resources for YOU!



- [www.swmft.ms.gov](http://www.swmft.ms.gov)
- RENEW ONLINE!
- Online Rules and Regulations
- Contact the Board via Email



[Main Page](#)

 **License Renewal**

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[Marriage & Family  
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[Frequently Asked  
Questions](#)

[Payment Tracker](#)

[Contact Us](#)

[Mississippi State Board of  
Examiners for Social  
Workers and Marriage &  
Family Therapists  
Website](#)

### Instructions for Social Worker License Renewal

In most cases, Social Workers to whom a license was issued or renewed during the current licensing period may renew their licenses online.

You may not renew online if you meet either of the following criteria:

- LSWs that are renewing for the first time.
- LMSWs that have not previously held a Mississippi license.

Renewal Period for Social Workers:

License Type	Start Date	End Date
LSW	August 1 of your expiration year.	September 30 of your expiration year.
LMSW	March 1 of your expiration year.	April 30 of your expiration year.
LCSW	March 1 of your expiration year.	April 30 of your expiration year.

CE Requirements for Renewal:

- 40 contact hours or 4.0 SWUs. These hours must have been completed during the two years leading up to your current license expiration date.
- Social Workers may also carry-over a maximum of 1.0 SWU per renewal period. Carry-over coursework must have been completed within the six months prior to your current license expiration date. If you have completed coursework in addition to the